

## MOUNT TEMPLE OFFICERS DENY SEEING WRECK

(Continued From First Page.)

Finally disappeared. We never made out what it was.

"When you have binoculars what share of the time do you have the glasses to your eyes while on the lookout?"

"If we fancy we see anything on the horizon," said Fleet, "then we use the glasses to make sure."

Sensor Fletcher asked Fleet if he had helped in the loading of the boats.

"Yes, sir."

"Had you ever had any experience in loading and lowering lifeboats?"

"All of us do in the White Star," he said. He saw no lifeboats loaded other than number six, the boat in which he pulled away with about thirty passengers.

"Were there any women left on the deck who did not get in the boat?"

"No, sir. I saw none."

"Did you call for them?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did not ask to be taken."

The witness said that there were a number of men on the decks, but none of them sought or even asked to be taken on.

Fleet told of the appearance in the boat of a steward who had hidden beneath a seat. The man, an Italian, was of no assistance because of an injured arm. His boat, Fleet said, asked for and got another man from a lifeboat to which they tied up.

"Did you hear any cries for help?" asked Senator Smith.

"Yes, but they were very faint."

"Did you go back to help?"

"No, sir. Some of the passengers wanted to, but the quartermaster who was in command ordered us to keep on rowing."

"How far were you from the Titanic when it sank?"

"Oh, it must have been a mile."

"As to your experience in trying to estimate how far the Titanic was from the iceberg when you sighted it, I should say you did not have any judgment of distance," Senator Smith commented.

"No more, I haven't," Fleet answered, and was then excused.

**Smith's Sharp Announcement.**

Sensor Smith then arose and formally announced that he wanted to meet an inquiry that had arisen as to the purposes of the committee.

"It is to get all of the facts attending the catastrophe," he said. "The committee is not a body of men who ship are not shipbuilders, and if we can get from them what they know it is all we can expect. Now, a word as to the plan. It is the intention of the committee to inquire of all subjects of Great Britain who may be in this country, and who may know anything of the disaster, and to hold them here until we have learned all that we can. This course will be pursued until the committee concludes they have obtained all accessible and useful information to a proper understanding of this disaster."

"Now, a word about the difficulty. To the credit of most of the officers and members of the crew, we have experienced little difficulty in securing such witnesses as we thought necessary, but from the beginning until now there has been a voluntary, gratuitous, and needless attempt upon the part of certain persons to influence the course of the committee and to shape its procedure."

"Misrepresentations have been made. I have heard, I have not, however, read the newspapers, because I did not wish to be prejudiced."

"The representatives of the press have all co-operated in every possible way to lighten the burdens of the committee."

"The committee will not tolerate any further attempt on the part of any one to shape its course. We shall proceed in our own way, and the judgment of our efforts will be withheld until those who criticize our course may have opportunity to examine the official record."

As Senator Smith delivered this announcement he spoke emphatically, and punctuated his remarks by pounding the table with his fist. Afterward he did not give any detailed explanation of what actuated him to make the statement.

**Love Given His Version.**

Harold G. Love, fifth officer of the Titanic, was the next witness. He told of his early experience from the time he ran away to sea at fourteen and shipped on a sloop.

He knocked around the world on sailing ships, then took up steamers, and about fifteen months ago joined the White Star Line. Until he shipped on

## Picking Up Victim's Bodies



CAPTAIN F. H. LARDNER.

of the cable ship Mackay-Bennett, which, under orders from the White Star Line, has been cruising around the scene of the Titanic's foundering and picking up bodies of the victims.

the Titanic, he said, he never before had been in the North Atlantic.

"You were present at the test of the Titanic in Belfast harbor?" asked Senator Smith.

"Yes, sir."

"What did you do?"

"I looked to the lifeboats. With Mr. Moody and Mr. Boxhall I looked over the lifeboats, examined them carefully, and found everything in

working order. In one of the lifeboats I found a dipper was missing."

As to the collapsible boats, Love said he could not remember precisely what was found.

"We did find that there were plenty of oars, with extra oars for each boat," he said.

The witness said that while it had been planned to hold a lifeboat drill April 1, it was postponed because there was a breeze. In fact, the witness said, it was almost "squalid."

The witness declared there had been no test for speed on the Titanic. He believed the Titanic was capable of making from twenty-four to twenty-five knots an hour.

"Have you any idea yourself the speed the Titanic made on her trial trip?" the Senator continued.

"I do not know exactly," Love replied, "but I believe it was between twenty and twenty and a half knots."

"How many revolutions did that speed require?"

"I can't tell exactly, because the revolutions had not been entirely worked out when the ship went down."

"Was there any representative of the British Board of Trade on the Titanic during the test trip?"

"Not that I know of."

**One Drill Held.**

The witness said that before the Titanic sailed on her maiden and last voyage one drill of the crew was held. He could not remember whether it was held at Belfast or in the harbor at Southampton. He hesitated also when asked his special station, and did not know whether any other officers were at their stations on the starboard side of the ship where his station was located.

"I was a complete stranger in the ship," he said in explanation. Later, he remembered that the test was held at Southampton.

He was in charge of one of the two boats lowered there. The entire drill, he said, consisted in rowing about the harbor for an hour.

"Now, Mr. Love," the Senator continued, "no other drill took place after that until the accident?"

"No drill took place after that."

"Was there no fire drill, no alarm, a drill requiring the presence of each man at a given place?"

"There always is a fire drill when we had boat drill. There was a fire drill previous to the general drill at Southampton."

"Are you quite sure you had that fire drill?"

"Let me see," said Love. "I don't want to be telling a story—I may be confusing her with some of the other ships."

Love thought for a long time and then said he would answer that, because I am not sure.

"Well," said the Senator, "we will not annul that and wait your best answer."

"Well, I'm here to help you all I can and I don't remember."

"Then that is what you want us to understand. You do not remember?"

"Yes."

Love said that most of the officers of the Titanic at the beginning were strangers to each other.

"Did you ever hear of ice in the vicinity of Newfoundland?"

"No, sir."

"Did you ever hear of an iceberg?"

Inquired Senator Smith in surprise.

Yes, sir. Off Cape Horn.

This one, Love said, was the only one he had seen in his career until he saw a number at dawn the day following the collision.

"Were they in the course of the Titanic?"

"Yes, sir; they must have been, for they were all around the horizon."

The biggest, he said, was at least 100 feet high. This was from four to five miles away, and all were within a radius of six miles.

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